



The **Blurb**

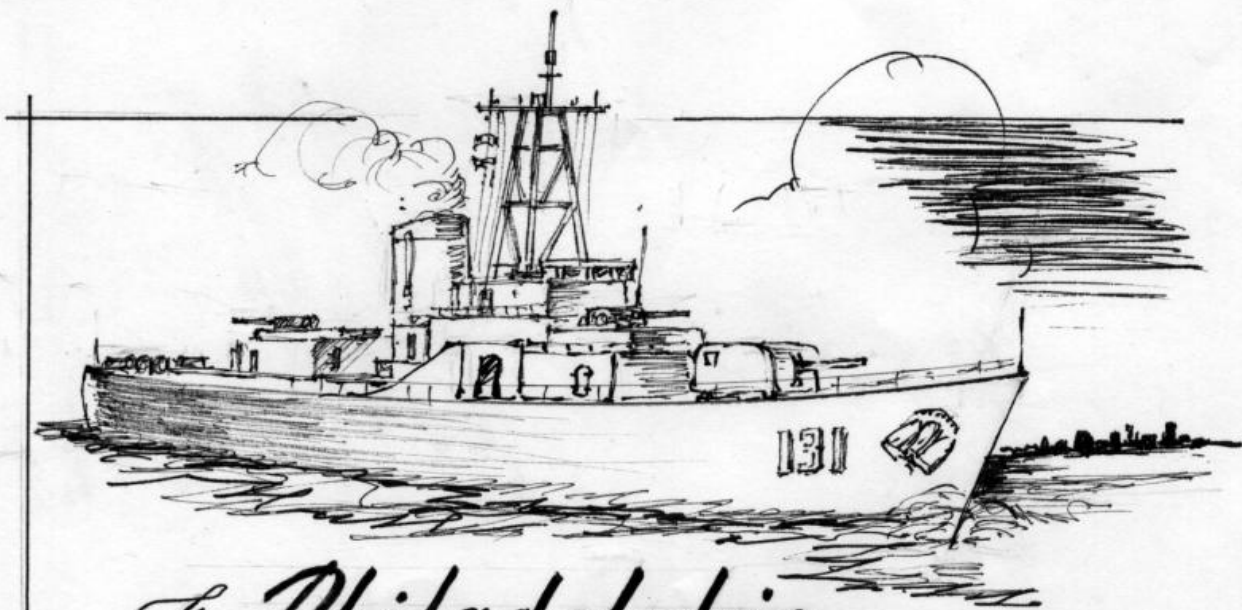


Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club
Public Service Since 1949

Volume 53 Number 4

<http://www.phil-mont.org>

April 2003



The Philadelphia

EXPERIMENT

PART II

OCTOBER 23 1943

In This Issue

Phil-Mont member a Science Fair success with Amateur Radio based project	3
KB3JCP/KB3JCQ photo mixup in March Blurb.....	4
Public Service events coming up.....	4
Radio commentator Paul Harvey plugs ham radio's emergency communications role	4
From The ARRL EPA Section News:.....	5
New ARRL Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Philadelphia. .	5
Montgomery County RACES/ARES Activated for Snowstorm.....	5
APCO Urges Heightened Communications System Security Awareness	5
The Philadelphia Experiment.....	6
Philmont Board Of Directors Meeting March 5.....	9
PMRC General Meeting March 12.....	9

The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. *Copying and quoting* is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. *Subscriptions* are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer.

Editor: Maggie Leber K3XS

k3xs@arrl.net ☎610-630-9862 <http://voicenet.com/~maggie>

Asst. Editor and Club Archivist: Gwen Patton NG3P

ng3p@arrl.net ☎610-630-9862

Artist: Sam Kuncovich N3QIE (his 537th issue)

Labels and mailing: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH

Submissions deadline: all copy must be in the hands of the Editors by the 20th of the previous month.

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter Net**.....at 09:30et on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net**at 10:00et 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net**at 10:20et 3.993 MHz LSB

License Examinations

are held on the **first non-holiday Thursday** each month at

Northeast High School,

Cottman and Algon Sts., Philadelphia.

Registration begins at 6:00 P.M. Enter through the SPARC wing. Doors closed and locked at 6:30 P.M. Sharp ! Exams begin.

Contact Phil-mont:

P.O. Box 88

Abington, PA 19001

<http://www.phil-mont.org>

webmaster Steve WU3I wu3i@arrl.net

For club information: contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes, and articles that are for the membership e-mail list should be sent to:
wb3koj@comcat.com

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the **second non-holiday Wednesday** of every month except July and August at
The Masonic Home
801 Ridge Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA
19444-1799

All visitors are welcome!

Club Stations

W3QV Club Repeater – Trustee: W3BBB

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz

444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

W3EM – Field Day and special events station – Trustee W3VVS

Club 2m simplex frequency : 147.51 MHz

President: KB3IV

Ed Masarsky

15 Poe Ave

Wyncote PA

19095-2903

☎215-572-5238

kb3iv@aol.com

Vice President: W3STW

Al Tribble

2848 Carter Rd.

Trevoise PA 19053

wstw@juno.com

Secretary: WA3KIO

Fred Rice

1933 Greymont St.

Philadelphia PA

19116-3804

☎215-673-2854

wa3kio@arrl.net

Treasurer: W3RM

Richard A. Moll

roger.mike@verizon.net

Asst. Treasurer: N3MT

Micheal P. Taraborrelli

mtarab01@villanova.edu

Directors: WU3I (04), W3BBB(03), N3MT (03), K3CJ (04), W3AOK(03), K3XS(04), N3XKE (A)

Committees

Archives: NG3P

Audit: NS3K

Awards:

Blurb folding:

WB3KOJ & WB3KOH

Directory: WB3KOJ

DX: N3MT

Emerg. Coord.: N3XKE

Field Day: WU3I

Internet: WU3I

Membership: W3LEN

Net Control: KB3IV

Publicity: W3RM

Program: Club VP

Public Service:

Refreshments: W3AOK

Repeater: W3BBB

Skywarn: WX3PHI

Sunshine: WU3I

Youth: N3MT

TVI: W3VVS

VE Program: ND3Q

W3AA Trustee: WU3I

Welcome: K3CJ.

Phil-Mont member a Science Fair success with Ama- teur Radio based project

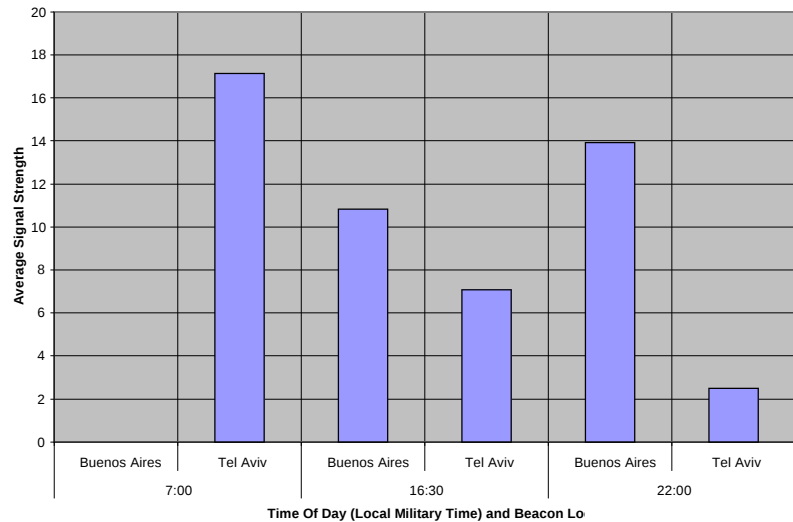
Our own David Staples, KB3HIU, has been making a splash with his ham-radio based science research project: *The Effect of Daylight and Sunspot Activity on Radio Wave Propagation.*

He's already won his high school's science fair, and gone on to place first in the Montgomery County Science Research Competition. Now he will bring his project to compete at the Delaware

Valley Science Fair on Wednesday, April 2.

David's project investigated how his reception of the

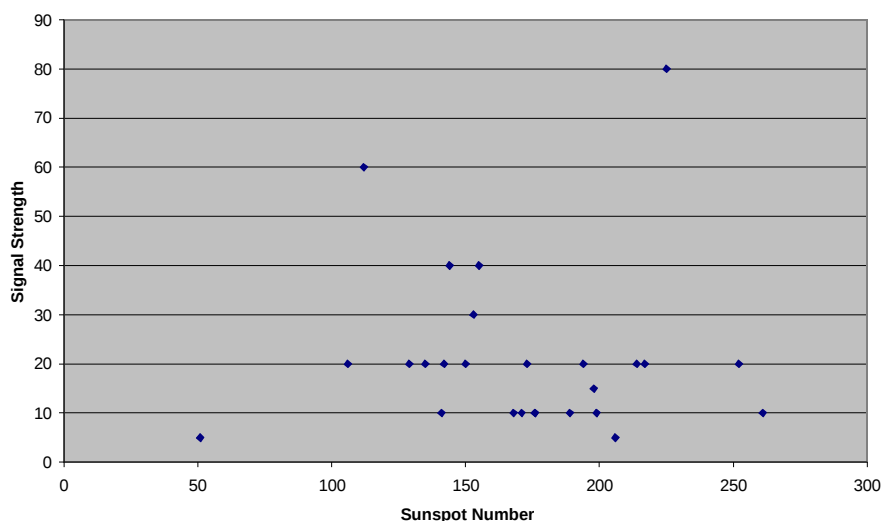
The Relationship Between Time Of Day And Average Signal Strength From A Given
(Graph 2)



NCDXF beacons 4X6TU in Tel Aviv, and LU4AA in Buenos Aires varied with time of day and sunspot number. In the process he learned a lot about the black art of HF propagation, techniques for making accurate measurements of radio signals, scientific use of statistical methods, the care and feeding of HF antenna systems, and how finicky tube-based receivers can be.

Our congratulations to KB3HIU, and best wishes for success at the Delaware Valley Science Fair. We'll be looking forward to the day when he advances to a General or Extra Class license and will enjoy transmitting on HF as well as receiving.

The Relationship Between Daily Sunspot Number and Stronger
Received Signal(Graph 1)



KB3JCP/KB3JCQ photo mixup in March *Blurb*

Well, your editor has done it again.

Last month we proudly printed a photo we received of one of the VE examination candidates at our first VE session at Northeast High School.

Even though the photo arrived without identification, I was confident that I could attach the proper identification to the photo.

After all, I was one of the VE officiating at the session. How could I possibly get it wrong? His name was Adam, and he was one of four new amateurs licensed at the session.

Well, I found a way. As it turned out, there were **two** new amateurs named Adam created at the session, and of course I got the wrong last name (and callsign, although they are only one letter different, being consecutively assigned).

So let's set the record straight: last month's picture was of **Adam Swierzy, KB3JCQ**, not Phil-Mont member **Adam**

Huffnagle KB3JCP.

My apologies to both Adams.

--73 es sry de K3XS.

Public Service events coming up

Don't forget these upcoming Public Service events!

MS Walks:

April 6, 2003
Ridley Creek State Park, Pa
Moorestown High School, NJ

April 27, 2003
West Goshen Park, PA

May 4, 2003
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Tyler State Park
Main St, Voorhees NJ
Boardwalk, Ocean City NJ
Valley Forge (PA) State Park
Elmwood Zoo, Norristown
Burlington County, NJ

September 20-21, 2003
MS150 City to Shore Bike
Tour

Radio commenta- tor Paul Harvey plugs ham radio's emergency com- munications role

(ARRL Mar 21, 2003) -- Veteran ABC Radio Networks commentator Paul Harvey on March 19 offered some kind words for Amateur Radio. The mention was the second item on "page four" of his Paul Harvey Noon News and Comment program:

"America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators, 700,000 of them, who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies -- amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornadoes."

After the 9/11 attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting friends and families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle Columbia, and right now, at this moment, they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public."

The commentary's enigmatic and mysterious final sentence --typical of Harvey's habit of leaving his listeners hanging--apparently

refers to the fact that many Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) teams have ramped up their alert status as hostilities get under way in the Middle East.

From The ARRL EPA Section News:

New ARRL Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Philadelphia

Welcome to Chris McCormick, N3JHR of Philadelphia. Chris has volunteered to be the EC for Philadelphia County. Chris should be a great addition to the E. Pa. EC's. Chris' experience as a member of the Philadelphia Fire Department should give him a good backround as he tackles some of the problems of a large metropolitan area. Congratulations to Chris. (de WB3FPL)

Montgomery County RACES/ARES Activated for Snowstorm

Montgomery County RACES was activated via phone call between the County Director, Emergency Preparedness and the RACES Radio

Officer at 1800 on Sunday, February 16 during the first part of what became the fifth largest snowstorm in the area since 1900 (per TV news).

RACES was told to help, as possible, by providing transportation for essential hospital and nursing home workers within the county. RACES was not expected to clear each job through county and was requested to accept jobs directly from the facilities that needed help. Several places that needed help were given to RACES.

The Radio Officer sent an alert via the pagers carried by over 50 members, convened a net on the county two meter repeater and began making phone calls to determine specific needs. RACES responded or attempted to respond to 17 different requests for transportation services until 2200 on February 17 when they stood down due to lack of jobs.

A total of 21 persons were transported by six different drivers in their personal four wheel drive vehicles on behalf of four different facilities. Each was in constant contact with net control by radio as they traveled. Six different hams acted as net control stations from their homes. In addition another 14 who did not have four wheel drive vehicles, checked into a net called at noon on 2/17, to indicate that they were monitoring the net and could possibly help in other areas if requested.

The recently issued RACES Photo ID Cards proved extremely valuable in establishing credibility with hospitals and riders. Info from Bob Lees, W3ZQN,

Montgomery County RACES Radio Officer

APCO Urges Heightened Com- munications Sys- tem Security Awareness

A Homeland Security Threat Advisory has been issued because of reports that people are "recording and photographing public safety communications towers." The reports have been coming from APCO members (Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials).

The Advisory says while there has been no evidence to suggest these are not legitimate actions, APCO advises you to pay close attention to such activity and report anything suspicious according to your local Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). APCO further advises not to release information to persons of unknown origin at this or any other time."

The Advisory has been posted in California by the California Office of Emergency Services and the Georgia Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO), International. The Georgia posting can be found at

http://www.gaapco.com/Breaking_News/breaking_news.html

In today's environment, it is probably a good idea that the exact location of any amateur radio repeater not be discussed with

anyone you don't know or can identify as having a reason to know.

The ARRL EPA Section Leadership has not been able to confirm any information beyond the Advisory Notice. The Advisory Notice follows.

Homeland Security Threat Advisory: Suspicious Activity

We have received information from APCO members that they have received numerous calls of a suspicious nature from people describing themselves as college students performing research. The questions have included specific communications infrastructure location information requests. Additionally, there have been reports of people recording and photographing public safety

communications towers.

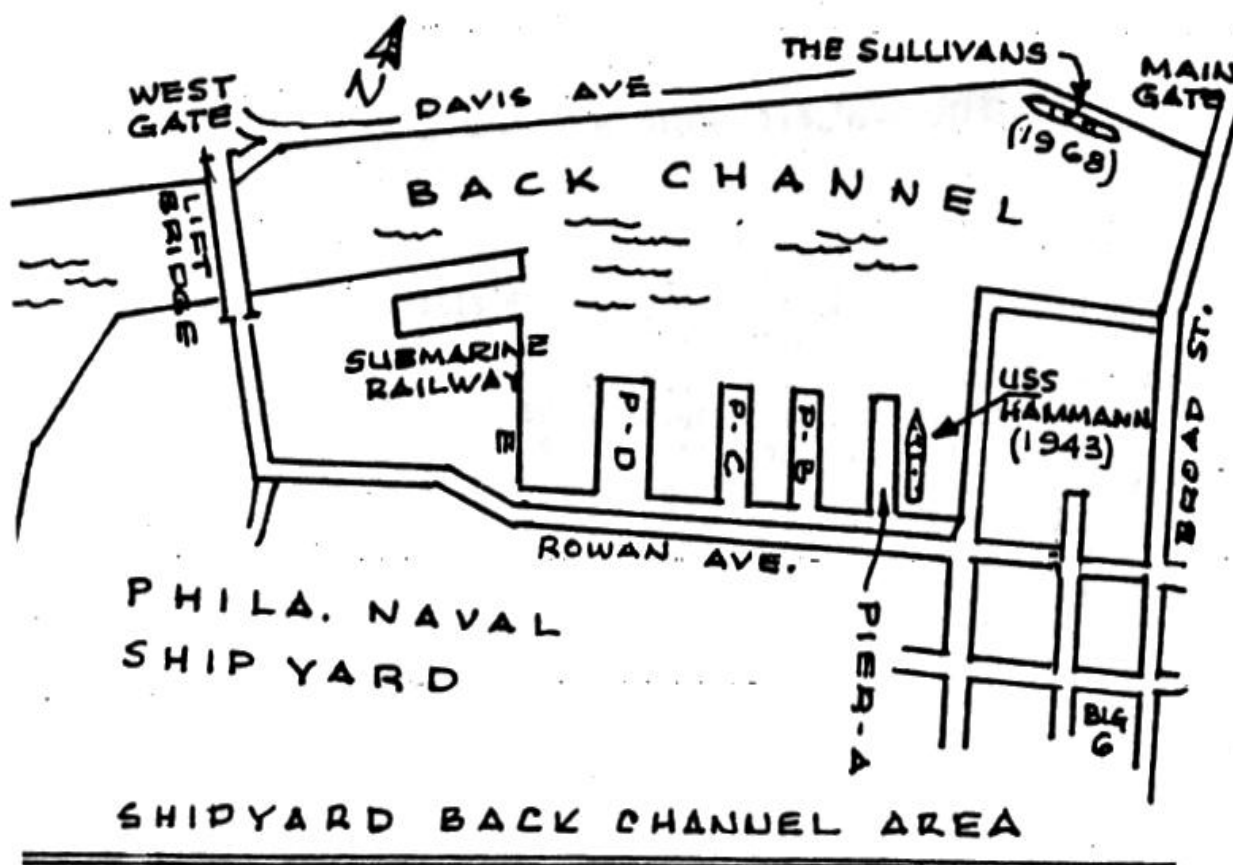
While there has been no evidence to suggest these are not legitimate actions, APCO advises you to pay close attention to such activity and report anything suspicious according to your local Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). APCO further advises not to release information to persons of unknown origin at this or any other time. Additionally, APCO recommends that you re-evaluate your internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for procedures on handling these types of calls to ensure this issue is addressed specifically for communications related information during this time of heightened security.

The Philadelphia Experiment

by Sam Kuncovich N3QIE

Part 2 of 2 -- reprinted from the *Blurb*, April 1989

Months later, I stopped at a local diner for lunch, after some Saturday morning shopping with my wife. We were sitting at a booth and placed an order with the waitress, when a casually-dressed elderly man came in and sat at the counter about seven feet from our booth. He placed his order and sat with his head down, mumbling to himself. Then, suddenly, out loud he said "The back channel, the 30 ft channel, they all disappeared!" It obviously drew my attention and I watched and listened carefully, when he suddenly got up and



walked out. All the waitresses said they never saw him before. Looking around outside the diner I found no trace of him. I had no idea which way he had gone. A week later I stopped by and asked if this person had shown up again. He hadn't. Now I was puzzled! Was I being baited, or was this a witness to the 1943 event? As time passed, I got to know the Navy Yard Chief of Police, Chief Bill Everett. When the time was right I stopped in to see him and told him of my research and asked if any of his staff were on duty in October 1943. He checked his file and found Joe Symzack, Patrol Sergeant, who happened to be a high school classmate of mine from Central High School. There was another, Sgt. George Leslie. Both were assigned duty to a restricted area of the back channel. Both had witnessed the arrival of a flat-bed truck bringing in a large canvas-covered object through the security line to Pier A.

This was a Saturday morning, but he did not recall the October date. Jo Symzack says he remembers a black car arriving ahead of the truck, and a stoop-shouldered, elderly man who left the car and walked in the direction of Pier A. This description, however, does not throw any light on the story.

In 1970 I was transferred from the Design Division of the ship yard to the Destroyer, Cruiser repair and overhaul group located at the east side of the Naval Base. The "Old" aircraft side.

Some time later, a book was published called "Thin Air". It is supposed to be based on the Philadelphia Experiment, but was pure fiction. The recent movie "The

Philadelphia Experiment" was based on that book. Once again, however, a curious fact was present. The book "Thin Air" gives a list of credits: people who provided information to the authors. You will find that list at the front of the book. It gives the name of Chief William Liedke, who I knew very well, having worked with him on several public relations projects. The Chief was discharged from the Navy six months after the book was published. I saw that discharge; it stated: "For the best interests of the Navy". A federal lawyer failed to get him reinstated.

By 1978, I had a few more curious facts added to my file. These I will not tell now. By this time I got to know a Mike Keiser, 1st class journeyman, at the Pubic Information Office Building 6. He told me that had a locked file of letters regarding the "Experiment". I managed to make copies of those letters to add to the file of research. These too, I will not include here. Another book came on the market written by Charles Berlitz, who goes through a lot of documentation but no facts or conclusive evidence. The book is titled "The Philadelphia Experiment".

On a trip to New York City with a partner on research projects, Frank Burghart stopped in one of the New York bookstores and found a softback publication "hidden" behind other books on an uppermost shelf. On reaching the first page, the book was immediately purchased, it was an original copy of "Allende's Papers".



Due to inclement weather, Northeast High School was closed on the scheduled day for our March VE Exams. Our next scheduled exams are April 3 and May 1

You can be sure this is kept in a secure safe place. In one of Allende's letters to Dr. Jessop, he states that on the night of October 23, after the experiment, several sailors stopped at the Stadium Bar at Broad and Snyder Aves. (still there). After sitting at the bar for an hour, the sailors suddenly became rowdy and started fighting with the other customers. In the midst of the melee, two sailors literally walked through the wall and disappeared outside. The story was published the next day in one of the Philadelphia newspapers. This could not be found. At that time the newspapers were The Record, The Evening Bulletin, The Ledger, The Inquirer and the Daily News. Papers of October 23-24 1943 would be almost impossible to find, even on microfilm. It is, however, a matter of record. The bartender at the time had committed suicide. Two waitresses were hospitalized with nervous breakdowns.

According to Allende at the time of the experiment, a "skeleton" crew and some civilian technicians were on board the ship. The event was described as follows:

When the signal was given to conduct the experiment, the fore

and aft lines were released. A slow hum from the shipboard object, similar to a large electric generator, gradually rose to a high pitch and to an almost inaudible whine.

Within several minutes, parts of the ship began to fade, then the hull, showing a depression in the water below, and in a few minutes it too had vanished, then reappearing some minutes later. Some of the crew, however, were completely dazed and disoriented and some only partly visible. Something had gone wrong. Incredible? Yes...how about a statement from one of the crew who was aboard, an officer who volunteered to take part.

"They were trying to make a ship invisible. It would have been perfect camouflage if it had worked. And it did, too, for the ship. But for those of us on board, it didn't work too well. We couldn't stand the effects of the energy field they were using. It did things to us.

"I should never have taken that assignment. It was top secret, and I could have backed out. I was told later that several had died. I never saw any of them again. Those that survived, they just let us go. Discharged as mentally unfit."

That statement was taken by two Air Force officers at Colorado Springs. The Air Force officers were James Davids of Baltimore MD, and Allen Huse of Houston TX. They had relayed this information to William Moore, the co-author with Charles Berlitz of "The Philadelphia Experiment". I was told by Harry Concsello, retired, of Design Division at the Navy Yard, a center-city favorite spot for sailors ashore was a place



Proposed new member:

John Geliebter N3RBJ (tech)
8041 Winston Road
Philadelphia 19118
Home 215 686 3353
Work 215 686 3353
Police Detective
N3RBJ@ARRL.NET

NEW DIRECTORY

With this BLURB you received your 2003 P.M.R.C. Directory. **If there are any errors in your listing please let me know** and the corrections will be printed in this column next month. The revised listing will also appear in the fall supplement.

April Birthdays

06 Pat Rush - WT3X
07 Laura Giacchi - KB3LRA*
David Staples - KB3HIU*
08 Jackie Chedeville (XYL W3GQD)
10 Paulette Simek (XYL N3YNH)
15 Joan Clifford (XYL W3UY)
18 Patricia Sullivan (XYL N3QMH)
28 Gwen Patton - NG3P
Rik Richenbach - WE3D

*New member 2002-2003

Membership Stats

At press time P.M.R.C. has:
100 FULL PAID MEMBERS
9 FAMILY MEMBERS
2 YOUTH
2 HONORARY MEMBERS
1 PENDING MEMBER

called "The Peanut Gallery". It was closed down by the Navy because it was a spawning place for rumors and talk about the Philadelphia Experiment.

Write! I'll tell you what I can. 73s.

Well, that's about it. There is more I can give you, but I think I've covered the more important details. Got any questions? Don't call,

Philmont Board Of Directors Meeting March 5

Attending the meeting were: Al W3STW, Maggie K3XS, Ed KB3IV, Steve WU3I, Bill W3AOK, Mike N3MT, Jim W3BBB, and Fred, WA3KIO. Ed KB3IV called the meeting to order at 8pm.

Treasurer: Dick W3RM reported we are on target at this time. Membership is slightly down but not all dues are in yet.

Membership: New applicant Ra Hefferman KB3JCR was voted on. Steve WU3I made a motion to accept and Bill W3AOK seconded it. Welcome Ra.

Nets: Ed KB3IV reported that all the nets are running fine.

Blurb: Maggie K3XS is looking for articles.

DX: Mike N3MT has been involved with schoolwork and said he would try to have something for a column during break.

VE Program: Testing was in doubt this month due to an emergency for which Dusty ND3Q could not attend. (The session was canceled anyway due to a weather related school closing).

Repeater: New sites are being investigated to provide coverage for Center City.

W3AA: Steve WU3I has been doing setup work at Northeast High

school. The consoles have been put together and painted. Antennas will be done when the weather breaks. Different ideas and the possibilities of a tower are being looked into.

Al W3STW spoke of April's meeting regarding Rollie W3PWG.

Dick W3RM made the motion to make W3PWG an honorary member. Steve WU3I seconded it. At 9:20 a motion was made to adjourn.

73 DE WA3KIO

PMRC General Meeting March 12

Attending the meeting were 21 members and guests. Ed KB3IV called the meeting to order at 7:55.

Treasurer report: Dick W3RM reported we have 15 members who have not sent in their dues yet. Two thousand dollars have been sent to the Foundation for Amateur Radio, the administrator for the 2003 Claude H. Haring Memorial Scholarship.

More information can be found on the Philmont website and there is a link to the FAR.

Nets: Ed KB3IV reported that the nets are running fine. Thanks go to Anthony W2AJV for taking the 2-meter net Sunday for Steve.

Membership: Welcome to Ra KB3JCR our newest Philmont member. New applicant John N3RBJ was introduced. New ham Adam KB3JCP was introduced.

Blurb: Maggie K3XS is looking for articles somewhat related to ham radio for the newsletter.

Public Service: Charlye K3CJ reported on three dates coming up for the MS walks and one for the March of Dimes.

Volunteer Exams: Steve WU3I reported that due to inclement weather, schools were closed and there was no VE session.

Website: The website is up to date at this time.

Field Day: Band Captains have been contacted and all are returning. The generators this year will not have ground fault interrupters so we will avoid the problems we had last year.

W3AA: The club station is getting back together and will be back on the air shortly.

Repeater: We are looking into new off sites for better coverage. At this time, members took a five-minute break and it was turned over to Steve WU3I who gave a fine demonstration of EchoLink.

73 de WA3KIO

NEW DIRECTORY

With this BLURB you received your 2003 PMRC Directory. **If there are any errors in your listing please let WB3KOJ know** and the corrections will be printed in his column next month. The revised listing will also appear in the fall supplement.

Date	April 2003 with PMRC
Tue 01	
Wed 02	Board of Directors Meeting – WRDV
Thu 03	VE Exams at Northeast High School – see page 2
Fri 04	
Sat 05	
Sun 06	NCS: 2m WA3NSP – 75m WA2AJV
Mon 07	
Tue 08	
Wed 09	General Meeting at Masonic Home – see page 2
Thu 10	
Fri 11	
Sat 12	
Sun 13	NCS: 2m N3OWM – 75m WA3KIO
Mon 14	
Tue 15	
Wed 16	
Thu 17	
Fri 18	
Sat 19	
Sun 20	Easter Sunday – 2m KB3IV – 75m KB3IV
Mon 21	
Tue 22	
Wed 23	
Thu 24	
Fri 25	
Sat 26	
Sun 27	NCS: 2m N3FTY – 75m W3STW
Mon 28	
Tue 29	
Wed 30	

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115

The Blurb